Grants to NGOs for welfare of minorities

3605. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the grants given to various NGOs for the welfare of minorities during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the names of those NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rehabilitation of Leprosy Patients

3606. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leprosy patients in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have formulated and comprehensive scheme for their rehabilitation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have also a scheme for extending financial assistance for the upliftment of families affected with leprosy and to remove social stigma; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) A statement indicating the number of leprosy patients, State-wise, recorded under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) during the year ending 31.3.2002 is annexed (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Funding of expenses on cost of major reconstructive surgery by approved Non-Governmental Organizations; provision of major and minor reconstructive surgery equipments to medical colleges and district hospitals; provision for Micro Cellular footwear to the needly leprosy patients and training of health care personnel on prevention of deformity, etc. are envisaged under NLEP, for physical rehabilitation of leprosy patients. Under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities voluntary organization can avail assistance for setting up homes and projects for vocational training for rehabilitation of persons curred of leprosy.